

Kathryn F. Verley

From: "Kathryn F. Verley" <kfv@blackfoot.net>  
To: <donstein@midrivers.com>  
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 12:45 PM  
Subject: HB548

HB 548

(H) 444-4825  
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Dear Ag Committee:

Please read before the entire committee as I could not get the CC to all of the other members

Please support HB 548 and provide strict regulation for the puppy mill breeders. We have a dog from LDR Kennels in Charlo, MT. He lived a pitiful life in a small cage for the first year of his life. He had a heart murmur and the breeder could not sell him the way he was, (she wanted \$300 for him). I could not stand to see him live his entire life in a small very small wire mess crate. We purchased him. He did not know how to walk when we got him and he had a twisted leg from laying on it all his life. He had nothing soft to sleep on and his feet were so splayed because he had to spread them to keep from dropping thru the large mess in the floor of his kennel. He had a bad eye infection, because the breeder never cut the hair out of his eyes and it had grown back into the eye itself. He had ear mites and his odor was horrible. His breath smelled like dog waste for a month, because the air was so bad in the kennel where he was housed. His coat was washed several times before the smell was finally washed out.

I happened to see the weaning area for these puppies - and it was deplorable and the smell burned my eyes. The breeder told me 5 dogs died while she was on vacation a couple summers ago, because the workers were negligent in the dogs care. This woman should be locked up for the way she treats her 175+ dogs. No one can take proper care of that many dogs.

Our little dog was terribly underweight and his hip bones poked out. It took him three days before he had a bowel movement - she fed only the bare minimum of food to these dogs.

We were able to get 4 dogs out of her kennel, all of which had been in the crates for up to a year or more. These four dogs all had some sort of defect that made them not sellable, however we paid over \$400 for all of them. My Aunt took two white schnauzers and we took two Yorkies.

Please speak out for those who cannot, those who live everyday of their life in deplorable conditions. You should limit the number of dogs a breeder can have. You should put back in language that was struck out of the bill that provides for ample room to move about and fresh air to breath.

Thank you for listening to me and please support this bill.

Kathy Verley  
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